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To: JSAMAIL.JSA_SAC(Peter), JSAMAIL.INTERNET("jsingle@c...
Date: 2/3/99 10:03am
Subject: ?

Hello Pete and Jeff,

As I promised, below are those taxa (species and subspecies) which were evaluated for inclusion on the forthcoming Bird Species of Special Concern list and are not currently special concern taxa. These taxa have a sufficiently high BSSC score to warrant likely inclusion on the new BSSC list and consideration in CALFED's Conservation Strategy. I evaluated the range and area of "concern" of these "new" BSSC to see that they occur within the CALFED problem/solution areas and if proposed CALFED actions might 1) impact these taxa and 2) if restoration activities might benefit them.

I recommend Species Goals of "m" for each of these taxa as, after the first meeting, it seems you can't buy an "r". Hence, the general Species Prescriptions developed for "m" taxa will work for these (for purposes of CALFED). I've included specific Conservation Measures for each taxa.

Sora (*Porzana carolina*)

Should be considered with wetlands species (Freshwater Emergent Wetland). Conservation measures should include maintenance of appropriate water levels during the breeding season and provision of dense, tall emergent vegetation. Wetland conservation for this species should be directed at larger sites (highly territorial species) with low probability of introduced predators (away from urban or commercial land uses).

Belted Kingfisher (*Ceryle alcyon*)

Should be considered with riparian taxa. Conservation measures are essentially the same as those for bank swallow but should include maintaining trees or large shrubs for forage and roosting near breeding sites.

Sac. Valley Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia mailliardi*)

Should be considered with riparian taxa. Same conservation measures as riparian taxa but often uses edge or riparian/grassland interface.

Oregon Vesper Sparrow (*Pooecetes gramineus affinis*)

Should be considered with grassland taxa. Conservation measures include priority consideration for grassland conservation sites with sparse shrub cover or adjacent to sites with shrubs. This taxa uses grassland sites which are structurally diverse.

Suisun Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia maxillaris*)

Should be considered with wetland species (Freshwater and/or Brackish marsh). Same general Conservation Measures as other terrestrial (not rails) bay marsh species. Conservation sites should include diverse, dense, native marsh shrub vegetation for breeding and cover. Extremely restricted range so measures should target protection of all existing sites.

Pacific-Slope Flycatcher (*Empidonax difficilis insulicola*)
Should be considered with oak woodland and riparian. Apply general Conservation Measures for species using dense hardwood forests with some vertical structure.

Yellow-Headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*)
Should be considered with wetlands species (Freshwater Emergent Wetland). Conservation measures should include maintenance of appropriate water levels during the breeding season and provision of dense, tall emergent vegetation. Wetland conservation for this species should be directed at larger sites adjacent to productive agricultural lands which are used for foraging.

All for now. Lyann Comrack and I are going to review the grassland taxa tomorrow and provide consolidated comments. Please contact me if you have any questions or comments on the preceding.

Regards,

Kevin

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